

# Globalisation links & impacts on Tourism for the NE

- Tourism is global in nature so inherently impacted by globalisation

*“The term ‘globalisation’ in a confined sense can be defined as the process of integrating a local/ regional/ national economy with the world economy. A commonly used interpretation - globalisation includes a spread of international trade, free flow of labour & capital across boundaries, increased opportunities for TNCs, transfer of technology and the increased production and trade in services.”*

- Globalisation in tourism DOES NOT MEAN ONLY Economic globalisation (cultural globalisation, trade in environmental resources)

# Globalisation links & impacts on Tourism for the NE

- Tourism – links to infrastructure, resource usage, ownership, technology (roads and highways, dams, GDS, land use patterns)
- Tourism and trade – market access (Nathu La, Burma rail Line, Asian Highway – Look East Policy)
- Tourism is an easy “entry-point” “excuse” to push in investment/trade interests in other sectors
- For the NE: understanding geo-political dynamics, globalisation and tourism



**PUT PEOPLE'S RIGHTS  
OVER CORPORATE RIGHTS**

Global Tourism continues to be highly imbalanced with tourists thronging south but the money flowing north. The GATS perpetrates existing inequities in tourism and privileges corporate interest over people's rights.

**Say NO to GATS in Tourism! DEMOCRATISE TOURISM!**

# Location of the North East of India





# Regional Cooperation, Investment & Tourism

## SASEC

- An investment-driven model of growth/development
  - Regionalization or sub-regionalization are processes where, rather than resulting from predetermined national or sub-national plans, primarily emerge from non-state actors. In this context the efforts of ADB and other IFIs to conglomerate contiguous countries or portions of countries as a way to bring about economic-integration first within the sub-region/region and then finally to merge with the global economy.
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- ADB went ahead and put together Bangladesh, Bhutan, NE India and Nepal into a similar design of regionalization under the banner South Asia Sub-regional Economic Cooperation (SASEC), without fully understanding the implications of their experiments in other sub-regions such as GMS and more importantly without discussion and consent of peoples in the SASEC member countries. This is particularly visible in the NE where even local elected representatives are not even aware of their land being conglomerated with other neighboring countries.

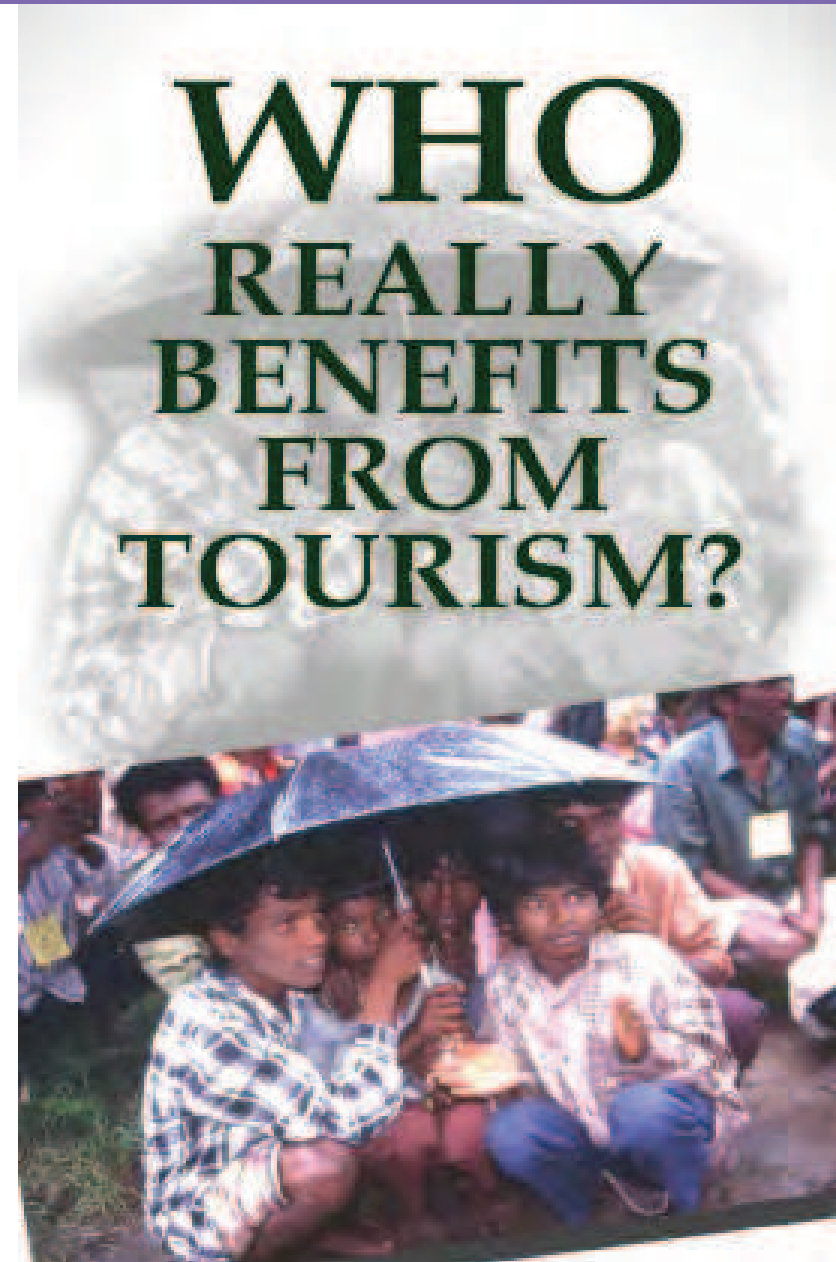
# SASEC Project Outline

- Trekking in the Himalayas
- Eco-Tourism in Ganga-Brahmaputra
- Adventure Tourism in SA
- Footsteps of (Lord!) Buddha
- Living Buddhism in the Himalayas
- Buddhist Art & Archaeology in SA

# Points of Critique

- Where is people participation?
- Access into the NE - ILP / RAP
- Destinations identified - Developing enclaves?
- Questioning eco-tourism
- Who benefits?
- Regulation and Sustainability
- Financing the TDP - more debts?

So what is our counter strategy going to be?



# Trade and Tourism ... on a hot tin roof!

- GATS: Trade Agreement under the World Trade Org.
- Increasing market access and reducing national regulation
- Driven by industry interests and lobby pressures
- Tourism: high opening up (125 / 148 members committed to have liberalized policies) - "win-win" situation





# Trade and Tourism ... on a hot tin roof!



- India - Scheduled Areas brought back into GATS offers (August 2005)
- Reduced power of national/regional/local governments to regulate tourism
- Beware also of RTAs

